

- 21.The ear nut of claim 20, where said opening in said base plate being threaded to receive a threaded post.
- 22.The ear nut of claim 20, where each of said friction fingers having two curved projections extending toward said base plate opening.
- 23.The ear nut of claim 22, where each of said gripping tabs having rectangular or circular cross section, wherein the cross sectional area of each tab is smaller than or equal to the cross sectional area of said friction fingers.
- 24.The ear nut of claim 23, where the length of said gripping tabs being dependent on the material of said gripping tabs.
- 25.The ear nut of claim 24, where said separator having a circular or oval shape.
- 26.The ear nut of claim 24, where each of said base plate, said friction fingers, said gripping tabs, and said separator being stamped from the same material, whereby being interconnected.
- 27.The ear nut of claim 24, where each of said base plate, said friction fingers, said gripping tabs, and said separator being cast separately, where said separator being soldered to said tabs, and where said tabs and said fingers being soldered to said base plate.

28. The ear nut of claim 24, where said friction fingers, said gripping tabs and said separator being wire formed, where said separator being soldered to said gripping tabs, and where said tabs and fingers being soldered to said base plate.
29. The ear nut of claim 24, where the length of each of said tabs being essentially equal, the length of each of said tabs projecting beyond said friction fingers.
30. The ear nut of claim 24, where said separator being capable of preventing said tabs from being squeezed together by a grip of a user.
31. The ear nut of claim 24, where said opening in said base plate being smooth to receive a smooth post.
32. The ear nut of claim 24, where said tabs having a surface capable of being gripped, said surfaces being smooth, fluted, corrugated, hatched or being a raised stippled surface.
33. The ear nut of claim 23, where the second end of each tab extending away from said first end in a substantially indented, curved or straight line.

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is prepared as new material for incorporation with a Continuation-In-Part filed in